

Application No.: 09/485,225

Docket No.: 20061-00088-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).
2. (Canceled).
3. (Previously Presented) A hook according to claim 12, in which said ring has an axis passing through a top of a curve of the J-shaped first end section.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Previously Presented) A hook according to claim 12, in which an inlet edge of the inlet duct is rounded so as to avoid leaving any sharp edge which could injure the cable.
7. (Canceled).
8. (Previously Presented) A hook according to claim 12, in which the finger grip end block has lateral recesses and projections to form a finger grip.
9. (Previously Presented) A hook according to claim 12, in which the finger grip end block connects a tilting safety tongue fixed to said finger grip end block for bearing against a free inside end of the hook.
10. (Previously Presented) A hook according to claim 9, in which a free end is coated with extra injected material.

Application No.: 09/485,225

Docket No.: 20061-00088-US

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A hook for a cable comprising:

a finger grip end block having a passage formed therethrough;

a solid cable slidably resting in the passage, the cable having a folded end secured by a crimped clip;

the passage having a circular inlet duct through which a straightened cable section passes;

the passage further having an outlet duct, larger than the inlet duct and receiving the folded cable end;

~~an outer circular end of the inlet duct being outwardly flared to avoid a sharp edge from contacting the cable;~~

a junction between the inlet and outlet ducts forming a shoulder serving as a stop abutment for the folded cable end when the cable is placed in tension;

a rigid flat metal wire having an inverted J-shaped first end section facing the outlet duct, the inverted J-shaped first end section serving as a hook member; and

the flat wire having an opposite end section bent into a ring embedded in the finger grip block, around the stop abutment, and located in a plane generally perpendicular to the J-shaped first end section, the ring serving to reinforce the shoulder that serves as a stop abutment of the finger grip end block; and

wherein the ring surrounds said inlet duct in the vicinity of its junction with the outlet duct.

13. (New) The hook according to claim 12, wherein an outer circular end of the inlet duct is outwardly flared to avoid a sharp edge from contacting the cable.

Application No.: 09/485,225

Docket No.: 20061-00088-US

14. (New) The hook according to claim 12, wherein the overall thickness of the block in a plane perpendicular to the plane of the J-shaped first end section is 3-5 times the thickness of the coated shank, and is 4-8 times said thickness in a plane parallel to the plane of the J-shaped end section.